



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

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Passport denial nets Virginia \$48,000

RICHMOND -- The Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) Division of Child Support Enforcement (DCSE) recently collected \$48,087 from a non-custodial parent who wanted to retrieve his passport. The parent owed this delinquent child support to his fifteen-year-old daughter.

“Since the program’s inception in June 1998, passport denial has been an effective enforcement tool in Virginia,” said VDSS Commissioner Anthony Conyers Jr. “We take our role of collecting child support seriously.”

Virginia can request the State Department to revoke, refuse, restrict or limit a passport previously issued to an individual owing a child support debt greater than \$5,000. A full payment is required to retrieve the passport.

Nick Young, DCSE Director said, “Some 62,000 Virginians have been denied passports so far in the pursuit of monies owed children. The program has had great success. The largest child support collection ever paid to retrieve a passport in Virginia was in 2003 when \$186,968 was collected from a father living in Jordan.”

DCSE has a caseload of 361,000, numbering 484,000 children. This caseload represents almost one-quarter of Virginia’s child population, who are owed \$2.2 billion in past due child support. DCSE has collected a record \$561 million in SFY05.

For more information about child support enforcement, visit the VDSS Web site at www.dss.virginia.gov/family/dcse.html

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